measuring 4.497 acres be leased out to Uttar Pradesh Government through its Directorate of Sports for a period of 30 years for construction of a mini stadium. However, the proposal was not approved by the Competent Authority as the said land is required for defence purposes.

Development of Indigenous System of Medicines

3543. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate directorate of Ayurveda;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have set up a separate Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy. Under the Department, a Directorate for Ayurveda and Siddha with a Director as its administrative head is to be established. The filling up of various posts in the Directorate is in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Specialised Hospitals

3544. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any specialised hospitals in different States;

(b) whether each State really require a hospital like All India Institute of Medical Sciences; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for setting up of such hospitals in the capitals of various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) 'Health' being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to establish hospitals in the States keeping in view their priorities and availability of resources.

National Ayurvedic Institutes

3545. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of National Ayurvedic Institutes functioning at present in the country;

(b) whether the working condition of the National Ayurvedic Institute, Jaipur is satisfactory; and

(c) if not, the measure being taken by the Government to improve the condition of this institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) There is only one National Institute for Ayurveda at Jaipur, Rajasthan.

(b) The National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan. The University of Rajasthan has been granting provisional affiliation to the Institute on a year to year basis. The Inspector of the University has pointed out certain shortcomings in the Institute. The Inspection teams of the Central Council of Indian Medicines (CCIM) which lays down the minimum standard of education, visited the Institute to assess whether the facilities provided are as per the norms. The Inspection report of the CCIM has made certain observations regarding nonfulfilment of the norms in some respects. The major short-comings are as follows :-

(i) Non-filling up of vacant posts;

(ii) Non-availability of certain equipments;

(iii) Additional requirements of hostel facilities; and

(iv) Establishment of a Herbal Garden.

(c) A herbal garden has been established. Hostel facilities have now been provided. Steps have been initiated to procure equipments and fill up vacant posts.

Ahir Regiment

3546. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ahir Regiment ever existed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for its abolition; and

(d) the efforts being made by the Government to revive it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Multipurpose Project for Koshi

3547. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any multipurpose project for the Mithilanchal region from the Koshi river;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in its completion;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed and the estimated amount to be incurred thereon;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the losses likely to be suffered due to its non-completion; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Kosi High Dam Project is proposed in Nepal territory and hence Nepal's cooperation in the project is essential. In the Indo-Nepal technical level meeting held in January, 1997 to discuss this project, it has been decided to take up detailed studies leading to preparation of Detailed Project Report jointly.

(c) Time frame for completion of the project and estimated cost would be known only when the detailed project report is prepared after investigations.

(d) and (e) The completion of the project would provide additional irrigation, power and flood control benefits to the terrai region of Bihar.

[English]

Closure of Banaras Hindu University

3548. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Banaras Hindu University has been closed indefinitely;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any Committee had been set up to look into the reasons of violence in the University; and

(d) if so, the findings of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) Consequent upon the invalidation of the nomination of certain candidates for the BHU Students Union Election (on their being found ineligible on account of their past misconduct); there was an altercation between the students and the security staff and police personnel. This aggravated into large scale disturbances including arson and loss of life on the BHU campus and outside. In view of the deteriorating law and order situation and on the advice of the district administration, the University was closed sine die w.e.f. 21/2/1997.

A One Man Enquiry Committee headed by Shri Justice R.R. Rastogi, retired Judge of the Allahabad High Court has been appointed by the University to enquire into the violent incidents leading to the closure of the University and to suggest remedial measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future. The work of the Committee is in progress.

Double/Multi Shift System in CGHS

3549. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce double/multi shift system in C.G.H.S. dispensaries to esnure adequate medical services to time beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the revised time is likely to come into the effect; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d) The 5th Central Pay Commission has given recommendations in this regard and the same are under examination.

River Valley Projects

3550. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the on-going River Valley projects in the country and the progress made so far, State-wise and Project-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a monitoring cell to review the physical progress of these projects; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to sustain the availability of resources for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) A statement giving details of ongoing Major and Medium Irrigation Projects in various States is enclosed.

(b) The Central Water Commission is already having a monitoring organisation which is monitoring most of the ongoing approved major projects and selected medium projects. Moreover the physical and financial progress of the projects are also reviewed at the time of Annual Plan discussions in the Planning Commission.

(c) Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Government from their own resources. The Central Assistance is released in the form of block loans and grants not tied to any sector or development and project. However, in order to provide Central Loan Assistance to the State Governments for early completion of irrigation projects, the Union Government has launched Rural Infrastructure Development Programme in 1995-96 and Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme in 1996-97.